## **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 722**

## By McKenzie

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Bobby James Leverett of Knox County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Bobby James Leverett; and

WHEREAS, Bobby James Leverett was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, born on June 12, 1954, in Lincoln County, Georgia, Mr. Leverett was the son of Helen Freeman Leverett and James Ike Leverett; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Leverett's educational path began at Cansler Elementary, Brownlow Elementary, and Christenberry Junior High; he graduated from Fulton High School in 1973; and

WHEREAS, he began his post-secondary education at East Tennessee State University, where he played basketball and was a three-year letterman until forfeiting his senior year to focus on his academics; Mr. Leverett received his Bachelor of Science degree in Correctional Services with a minor in psychology; and

WHEREAS, wholly devoted to serving his community, Mr. Leverett gained employment with Knox County Juvenile Court as a Senior Probation Counselor; he went on to work with Knox County for fourteen years; and

WHEREAS, following his time with Knox County, Mr. Leverett was then hired by the State of Tennessee Department of Juvenile Justice/Department of Children Services (DCS), where he held various positions in management and administration until his retirement; and

WHEREAS, Bobby Leverett served with acumen and alacrity as a Correctional Manager IV, Team Coordinator, for twenty-five years; he was the first and only African American to date to hold the position of Regional Administrator of Knox County DCS and Statewide Coordinator for Resource Linkage DCS; and

WHEREAS, at an early age, Mr. Leverett found his love for faith from his grandmother and was baptized at Tabernacle Baptist Church under the leadership of Pastor John Paul Jones; he later transferred his church membership to New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, where he served as a trustee and a financial supporter of the church's Youth Ministry under the leadership of Elder Dr. Joe B. Maddox; and

WHEREAS, Bobby James Leverett leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Bobby James Leverett, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.

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